GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1549
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2005
MOBILE PCOS TO HANDICAPPED
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken steps for the allotment of mobile PCOs to the physically handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the number of PCOs allotted to handicapped in Karnataka, especially in Davangere and Chitradurga Districts;

(c) the target fixed by BSNL for allotment of mobile PCOs during the 2004-05; and

(d) the extent to which this target has been achieved?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have taken policy decision for the allotment of Mobile PCOs in their respective service areas. All persons of 18 years and above, including handicapped persons are eligible to apply for the same.

(b) No Mobile PCO has yet been allotted to any persons in Karnataka including Davangere and Chitradurga Districts.

(c)&(d) Do not arise as the scheme has been announced by BSNL only in May, 2005 which is after the year 2004-2005.